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## CLAIMS

- 1. Use of an apoptosis inducing agent in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of inflammatory disorders.
- 2. Use of an apoptosis inducing agent in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of immune diseases.
  - 3. Use of an apoptosis inducing agent in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of autoimmune diseases.
- 10 4. Use of a gene delivery vehicle comprising a gene capable of expressing an apoptosis inducing agent in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of inflammatory disorders.
- 5. Use of a gene delivery vehicle comprising a gene capable of expressing an apoptosis inducing agent in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of immune diseases.
  - 6. Use of a gene delivery vehicle comprising a gene capable of expressing apoptosis inducing agent in the
- 20 preparation of a medicament for the treatment of autoimmune diseases.
  - 7. Use according to anyone of claims 4-6, wherein said gene delivery vehicle further comprises a suicide gene.
  - 8. Use according to claim 7, wherein said suicide gene is inducible.
  - 9. Use according to anyone of claims 4-8, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has a tropism for hematopoietic cells.
- 10. Use according to claim 4-8, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has a tropism for fibroblast-like synoviocytes.
  - 11. Use according to anyone of claims 4-10, wherein said gene delivery vehicle has been provided with a targeting means, especially a targetting means for fibroblast-like
- 35 synoviocytes.



- 12. Use according to any one of claims 4-11, wherein said gene delivery vehicle comprises a recombinant adenovirus.
- 13. Use according to anyone of the aforegoing claims, wherein the apoptosis inducing agent comprises apoptin or a functional fragment, derivative or equivalent thereof.
  - 14. Use according to anyone of the aforegoing claims wherein said apoptosis inducing agent is inducible.
- 15. A method for determining the presence of cells

  likely to result in an (auto)immune disease, comprising
  providing suspect cells with apoptin-like activity and
  subjecting said cells to stress, such as heat shock,
  osmotic shock, UV or chemical stress and determining
  apoptosis.
- 16. A method for determining the presence of autoimmune diseases in an individual, comprising providing a sample from said individual, said sample comprising cells implicated in said autoimmunedisease, providing said cells with apoptin-like activity and determining apoptosis.

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